

**From:** Joan Schafer/R3/USEPA/US  
**Sent:** 1/6/2012 12:22:29 PM

**To:** Kathy Hodgkiss/R3/USEPA/US@EPA; Dennis Carney/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**CC:** Ron Borsellino/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Subject:** Fw: Hi Terri, from Tim at Reuters

Please read the questions/statement below from the Reuters reporter - especially the statement that "residents have told him that EPA plans to provide bottled water."  
not sure if this will trigger any backlash from Betsaida or HQ. The reporter is asking ... "is this true?" (we have not yet heard back from betsaida with questions)  
joan

----- Forwarded by Joan Schafer/R3/USEPA/US on 01/06/2012 12:20 PM -----

**From:** Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US  
**To:** Betsaida Alcantara/DC/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Cc:** kulik.michael@epa.gov, seneca.roy@epa.gov, sternberg.david@epa.gov  
**Date:** 01/06/2012 12:14 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Hi Terri, from Tim at Reuters

Betsaida,

See follow -up questions below from Reuters. Subsequent to his email, this reporter called me back and said residents have told him that EPA plans to provide them with bottled water. So he is asking if that is true.

As for the questions in his email below, the Q&A approved last week can help us respond this way. I also used the language you gave David yesterday to respond to another reporter. As handled yesterday, I realize you will ultimately get back to Tim on all his questions since this is a national news outlet.

Earlier data reviewed by EPA in November 2011 indicated that private well water posed no immediate health risks. However, EPA has recently received additional Cabot data from residents that merit further investigation.

EPA is not in a position to make conclusions about the data we have currently reviewed because there are data gaps remaining. We started visiting Dimock residences on Dec. 29th to begin filling these information gaps about their drinking water supply and to ask residents to complete a well survey. We will use the information to determine what, if any, next steps are needed. Next steps being considered could include taking some samples from private drinking water wells.

----- Forwarded by Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US on 01/06/2012 11:27 AM -----

**From:** <timothy.gardner@thomsonreuters.com>  
**To:** Terri-A White/R3/USEPA/US@EPA  
**Date:** 01/06/2012 11:14 AM  
**Subject:** Hi Terri, from Tim at Reuters

Hi Terri,

We are getting a lot of information from lawyers of residents in Dimock and wondered if you could help me understand how EPA made the decision in November that the well water in Dimock was safe. Lawyers have suggested that Cabot gave water to a company called Test America, and that the water was filtered by the company before testing, so the tests may be questionable.

Can you tell me if EPA conducted its own tests? Did EPA employees take the test samples themselves and give it to a testing company? Or did EPA take the test samples themselves and do the testing in an EPA lab?

This information would help us understand what is going on in Dimock.

Thanks, Tim

202-898-8360

This email was sent to you by Thomson Reuters, the global news and information company. Any views expressed in this message are those of the individual sender, except where the sender specifically states them to be the views of Thomson Reuters.